

Director's Report

1. NLLS is looking at getting 4 summer students this year (interviews have started)
 1. Summer reading program (returning)
 2. IT
 3. 2 for Admin and bib services (one we can get funding through a metis student grant)
2. Heather received her MLIS so we were up to 4 MLIS, for a day. Kayla handed in her resignation as she is going to Banff Public Library, (not much of a contest really)
 1. Job ad has already gone out to Library Partnership Board (across Canada), Foothills Library Association (Alberta), Linked in, Indeed, List serves, the NLLS website we have also approached the UofA faculty of Information science. To try to entice more candidates, I think we can offer a 6 month training at HQ and then they can move closer to the city and work more remotely and with the libraries more directly, this will be under the new PS manager.
 2. We have interviews starting the week of the 13th for both the public services manager and the bib services manager. Only three applied
3. Just signed a contract for Lynda.com a learning database. That will be set up by the end of May.
4. At ALC I met with several vendors. TRAC is looking at RBDigital amalgamation for their magazines, negotiating 200 titles instead of the 50 for about the same price. With the indigenous funding I am also looking at partnering with a company called whitehots for their pop up library service. Basically it's a hot spot that does not use data where patrons can download straight to their device ebooks. I am looking at buying one and trying them out in those service areas.
5. TRAC has also signed a contract for SOLUS: a mobile app that helps with digital literacy and inclusion. It offers patron discovery, full account access and intuitive interface that transcends the physical library into a virtual space. TRAC released the contract with Boopsie over a year ago due to maintenance issues, plus the interface was not that intuitive. Kelly and I saw SOLUS at ALA last year and brought it to the group for discussion, several apps were discussed and SOLUS is what was decided on.
6. 3 staff members, the LMC chair and the 4 board members attended ALC on behalf of NLLS. 3 staff members (technicians) went to the Alberta Library Technicians Association. 1 staff member went to Ontario Library Association. 2 staff members – myself and Kelly – and the LMC chair will be attending the Innovative User Group next week, I will continue to on to the symposium. Where Michelle Tombs and myself will be negotiating new TRAC contracts for Polaris. Going from a license to a subscription and from mainframe servers to the cloud.
7. Report from PLSB is status quo right now. They will continue to monitor courier, but with what is happening in Ontario with the cut of their courier this is something we seriously need to put to the forefront. As of last week the Ontario equivalent to PLSB (SOLS) had their budget cut by

50%. This has to be on the forefront of PLSBs mind. However, they are still looking at procurement of a new Interlibrary loan system and also looking at upgrading bandwidth for the libraries.

8. Larry and I have gone to 17 council presentation and 1 library board. My team and myself have also visited an extra library board. The majority of the presentations went very well, except for one that will be discussed later. Larry and I have 3 more presentations scheduled this month.